

# The Calvin Ball Bulletin

**District Two**

**October 2013 Edition**

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## **Welcome!**

As our children begin their first week of school, summer winds to down and the Council emerges from its August recess, there are so many exciting things happening around our County. This newsletter is an opportunity for me to highlight many of the upcoming events and opportunities on the horizon throughout District 2 and beyond I think you may find of interest.

Know of any great community events? Please share them with me by emailing [cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov).

If you are not already signed up to receive this newsletter, email "subscribe" to [cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov) and I will be happy to add you to our distribution list!



Dr. Calvin Ball, District 2

## **Disability Issues Commission 19<sup>th</sup> awards ceremony**

The Howard County Commission on Disability Issues will hold its 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Ceremony on Thursday, October 3 at 7pm at The Bain Center, Great Room 5470 Ruth Keeton Way, Columbia. It will honor the achievements of County residents with disabilities, their advocates, employers and service providers. Guest speakers Maryland Department of Disabilities Secretary Catherine Raggio and Maryland State Delegate Liz Bobo will be in attendance.

Rsvp: Due by Friday, September 27. Contact Erica Lewis at 410-313-6402 or email [ealewis@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:ealewis@howardcountymd.gov)

## **Howard County Offers Special Tire Drop-Off Day at Alpha Ridge Landfill**

Howard County's Department of Public Works, Bureau of Environmental Services will host a residential tire drop-off event on Saturday, September 28, 8:00am-3:30pm at the Alpha Ridge Landfill, 2350 Marriottsville Road in Marriottsville. Residents are limited to 10 scrap tires; however, there is no limit for agricultural related tires. Participants must be able to load their tires out of their vehicles and into a roll-off container. Residents using the Landfill for any other purpose, must show a valid driver's license as proof of residency in Howard County to gain entry into the facility.

For more information about the County's tire drop-off day and recycling program contact the Bureau of Environmental Services at 410-313-6444 or visit the website.

## 2013 Back To School Corner!



### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BACK TO SCHOOL EVENTS:

**Deep Run ES:** Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> is Back to School Night for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade; beginning at 6:30 PM. Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> is Back to School Night for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade; beginning at 6:30 PM.

**Ducketts Lane ES:** September 17<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:30 Back to School Night - Grade 1; September 18<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:30 Back to School Night – Grades 2 & 3; September 19<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm Back to School Night – Grades 4, 5 & GT

**Jeffers Hill ES:** Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> is Back to School Night.

**Phelps Luck ES:** Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> is Back to School Night for Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade. Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> is Back to School Night for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> is Back to School Night for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Stevens Forest ES:** Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> is Back to School Night for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM. Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> is Back to School Night for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade, from 6:15 PM to 7:15 PM.

**Thunder Hill ES:** September 16<sup>th</sup> is Back to School Night for kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> is Back to School Night for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL BACK TO SCHOOL EVENTS:

**Mayfield Woods MS:** Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> is Back to School Night; beginning at 6:30 PM.

**Oakland Mills MS:** Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> is Back to School Night.

### HIGH SCHOOL BACK TO SCHOOL EVENTS:

**Long Reach HS:** Back to School Night is on September 9<sup>th</sup>; beginning at 6:30 PM for 9<sup>th</sup> graders and 7:00 PM for 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders

## Hope Bowl!!

**Saturday, October 5, 2013 7:00-9:00pm, Brunswick Columbia Lanes**

The Domestic Violence Center of Howard County is having the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Hope Bowl. It is a family-friendly event where teams compete in bowling while raising awareness and critical funds for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. It will also feature music, refreshments, raffles, and great prizes throughout the night! All proceeds benefit the Center's and their programs and services. Teams are comprised of 5 bowlers, and participants are asked to raise a minimum of \$100 per person or \$500 per team. Register online and use your personal fundraising packets to start raising funds. If you do not wish to bowl then you can register for 10 dollars and still attend.

Register here: <https://bos.etapestry.vom/fundraiser/DomesticViolenceCenterof/Hope>

## Traffic Action Committee (TAC) North Community Meeting!

Are you an Oakland Mills resident concerned about speeding on Thunder Hill Road north of Rt 175? A group of residents have formed a Traffic Action Committee (TAC) to study placing speed humps along Thunder Hill Road north of Route 175 heading towards the Village Center. Join the TAC and fellow OM residents as the TAC explains their proposed plan on **Wednesday, September 23, 2013 7pm** at The Other Barn. If you would like to learn more about the initiative prior, please email [thrd.tac@gmail.com](mailto:thrd.tac@gmail.com).

## Columbia Association Celebracion de la Familia

CA hosts the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Dia de la Familia, a free event at which community member are invited to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month on Saturday, September 28, 3-6 p.m at Columbia Sportspark, 5453 Harpers Farm Road, Columbia. Activities will include dance, food, games, face painting, a moon bounce, arts and crafts, soccer, mini-golf and much more. For more information call 410-715-3162

## Long Reach Flea Market!

On **Saturday, September 28, 2013 8am-12pm**, come out to the Long Reach Village Center for a fantastic opportunity to either sell your treasures or shop for unique purchases. Vendors, the cost is \$20/space. Stop by the Stonehouse or call **410-730-8113** for more details.

## Robinson Nature Center Two-Year Anniversary Open House!

Join the Robinson Nature Center as it celebrates its 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday on **Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> 12-5pm**, 6692 Cedar Lane in Columbia with a special open house featuring live animal presentations, nature crafts and exhibits, the opportunity for attendees to explore space in the Center's planetarium, discover the arboretum along the walking trails and check out the Center's Discovery Room and demonstration bee hive. For more details, go [online](#) or call **410-313-0400**.

## Public Forum on Education

The Harper's Choice Community Association invites you to attend a Forum on the State of Public Education on Monday, October 7, 7:00-9:00pm at Kahler Hall located at 5440 Old Tucker Row, Columbia, MD 21044. The Howard County Superintendent Dr. Renee Foote, will present an overview of the schools in Harper's Choice. Included on the panel are: James Le Mon, Principal of Wilde Lake High School; Adam Eldridge Principal of Harper's Choice Middle School; Laurel Marsh, Principal of Longfellow Elementary School and Molly Ketterer, Principal Swansfield Elementary School. There will be time for questions from the audience. This is your opportunity to hear from your schools administrators. For more info contact Village Manager, Wendy Tzucker at 410-730-0770.



## Farmers Markets Are Open - Enjoy Fresh Fruits, Vegetables & Other Locally Grown Food at a Local Market Near You!

Summertime is the perfect opportunity to go out in your local community and take advantage of our local farmers' markets. Buying local products helps our local economy and provides our residents a perfect opportunity to taste the freshest, most delicious products. This season you will find ripe produce, baked goods, fruits of the season, flowers, transplants, organically grown produce and specialty items. See below for a list of farmer's markets closest to you as well as important dates and times of operation.

### Oakland Mills Village Center, 5851 Robert Oliver Place in Columbia

Hours of Operation: Sundays 9am-1pm through November 24

### Howard County Library – East Columbia Branch, 6600 Cradlerock Way in Columbia

Hours of Operation: Thursdays 2-6pm through November 21

WIC & Senior FMNP checks accepted at all markets. For a complete list of locations or for more details, visit [www.HowardCountyFarmersMarkets.com](http://www.HowardCountyFarmersMarkets.com).

## Council Passed Revised Watershed Protection & Restoration Fee!

On July 25<sup>th</sup>, the County Council passed Council Bill 38 amending the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee. This will go into effect 61 days after being signed by the County Executive. Residents can expect the following fees:

Residential Fee: \$15 per impervious unit (Includes Townhomes and Condo units)

Single Family Homes – Lot size .25acre or less: \$45

Single Family Homes – Lots over .25 acre: \$90

Commercial apartments: \$15/apartment unit

Non-residential: \$15 per impervious unit

Non-residential Fee (phase-in for the fee that exceeds \$10,000):

FY14 property owner shall pay the greater of 50% of the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee

For future fiscal years, property owner shall pay 100% of Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee

There are hardship provisions for residential and non-residential property owners that may reduce the total charge to no more than 20% of the annual property tax bill. There are also opportunities for credits and grants for certain best management practices and investments that benefit the public stormwater management system. This policy will be set by the Administration in the coming months. For questions, contact Josh Feldmark at [JDFeldmark@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:JDFeldmark@howardcountymd.gov).

## Calling all Artists... 2014 Rising Star Performing Artist Applications Now Available!



The Rising Star Award competition is open to performers, both individuals and ensembles (with a maximum of four members) ages 18-35, who live, train, work or perform regularly in Howard County or have done so in the past. Review criteria include artistic expression, technical ability, and stage presence. Up to ten selected finalists will perform at the Arts Council's annual benefit gala, Celebration of the Arts in Howard County, on the evening of **March 29, 2014** at Howard Community College's Peter and Elizabeth Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center in Columbia, MD. The event audience of over 500 artists, arts patrons, business and political representatives and other community members will then vote for their favorite performer. The winner of the popular vote will receive the top \$5,000 Rising Star Emerging Performing Artist Award on stage that night. Additional awards may be given depending on the amount of funding raised from the event.

The early no-fee application deadline is **October 1, 2013**. Applications submitted between **October 2** and the final deadline of **November 1<sup>st</sup>** must be accompanied by a \$10 application fee. To apply, click [here](#). More details are available [online](#). Applications may also be requested from the Arts Council by calling **410-313-2787** or by emailing [info@hocoarts.org](mailto:info@hocoarts.org).

## Department of Citizen Services offers Free Prepare to Care Workshops

Presented by the Office on Aging, Prepare to Care can help families create long-term plans for their loved ones by examining the ways to assess needs; learning about services to support aging in place; and exploring assisted living and nursing home options. The first session will be held on Tuesday, October 1, from 6:30 to 8p.m. in the Ellicott room at the Miller Library, 9421 Frederick Rd, Ellicott City MD 21042. An additional session will be held on Tuesday, November 5 from 6:30 to 8p.m at the North Laurel 50+ Center, 9411 Whiskey Bottom Rd, Laurel, MD 20723. For more information or to register call Maryland Access Point at 410-313-5980

## Calling All Youth and Teens!

Get involved and be a part of the solution. Have fun and make new friends! Columbia Association's Teen and Middle School Advisory Committee is now seeking young individuals to attend monthly meetings and help get involved in their community by planning, organizing and implementing positive programs and activities for their peers.

High School Students (Ages 13-19) and Middle School Students (Ages 11-13) are invited to call **410-992-3726** or email [CATeens@ColumbiaAssociation.org](mailto:CATeens@ColumbiaAssociation.org) to sign-up. Meetings are the Third Thursday of the month 6:30-8pm at the Youth & Teen Center & The Barn in the Village of Oakland Mills, 5853 Robert Oliver Place in Columbia.

## Help Keep Long Reach Beautiful ~ Adopt-a-Pathway!

*We need residents to help us monitor the pathways for: graffiti & other vandalism, trash, dumping, dangerous conditions. We will assist you by: providing trash bags and pick-up locations for scheduled clean-ups, provide a pathway map for your use, lend rakes and hooks if needed, provide a list of phone numbers for reporting problems*

## Collision Avoidance Training!

The Howard County Police Department has begun conducting Collision Avoidance Training (CAT). This is an advance defensive driving and vehicle control program for licensed teen driver's ages 16-20. The two day program (12 hours) is designed to provide young drivers with the knowledge and understanding of vehicle dynamics and will provide practical exercises that demonstrate how the vehicle responds in a given situation and how to regain control of the vehicle. Driving skills addressed in the program are: evasive maneuvers, threshold/emergency braking, forward serpentine, cornering, backing, reverse serpentine and skid and off-road recovery.

Students must operate their own vehicle. Each student must successfully complete each driving skill/maneuver in order to receive a certificate of completion. The cost is \$95 for both classes. Additional sessions will be held: **October 18-19, November 15-16 and December 6-7**. For more details, contact **Ms. Carolyn Bennett** at 410-313-3758.

## 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration of Sports!



If you like to watch, play, officiate, or care about sports in the Howard County community then you are invited to support and attend the 11th Annual Celebration of Sports hosted by Howard County Recreation and Parks. This is a great opportunity to bring together organizations and businesses that have a vested interest in our community sports and has quickly grown from an afternoon picnic to an evening banquet.

This event will be hosted on **Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm** at Turf Valley Resort. Tickets are \$38/each. Go [online](#) for more details or call 410-313-1691.

## HCPSS Free & Reduced Price Meal Application Now Available Online!

Applications for free and reduced price school meals may be completed online. This allows parents privacy in completing the application and receiving notification of status. Help is available in the schools for families who want to use the system but need computer or language assistance. Paper applications also will be sent home on the first day of school.

Additional information and the online application can be found [online](#).

## 15<sup>th</sup> Annual 50+ EXPO – “15 Years of Healthy Aging”!

Back for its 15th consecutive year, this year's 50+EXPO will feature more than 150 vendors and exhibitors of interest to older adults, families, caregivers, care providers and professionals. Join us on **Friday, October 18, 2013 9am-4pm at Wilde Lake High School, 5460 Trumpeter Road** in Columbia. This year's event will feature great ideas for healthy aging, from a comprehensive health screenings at the health fair to proactive who-health seminars and workshops, flu shots and diabetes screenings, as well as living green ideas, demonstrations, live entertainment and food. The always popular Capitol Steps will once again headline the entertainment this year, with two shows in The James Rouse Theatre at noon and 2pm.



### Drug Take Back Day!

Start cleaning your medicine chests! The next Drug Take Back Day is scheduled for **Saturday, October 26, 2013**. This is the perfect opportunity to properly dispose of unused or expired prescription medication. This is completely anonymous. For more information or for drop-off locations, visit [www.hcdrugfree.org](http://www.hcdrugfree.org) as the event nears, call **443-325-0040** or email [Joan@hcdrugfree.org](mailto:Joan@hcdrugfree.org).

### Homeless Gazette!

As an elected official and advocate to end homelessness, I'm thrilled to partner with the Route 1 Day Resource Center to put on the Hope for Homeless 5k. I'd like to share with you the Homeless Gazette which highlights stories and touching information from clients of the Day Center that I hope you find inspiring. I hope you will consider contributing to the Day Center and to their cause in their future. You can find the latest August edition [here](#) and view the archive editions [here](#). Here is a [list](#) of their needs if you're able to donate.

### Hunger-Free Howard!

Across Howard County, faith-based communities, clubs, organizations, schools and associations are choosing to be a part of the Hunger Free initiative to support the Howard County Food Bank, administered by Community Action Council of Howard County. HOW IT WORKS: Each month, the group chooses 1 item that they would like to ask their members to bring to donate to the Food Bank. In January, it might be cereal; in February, a jar of peanut butter.

If you are part of an organization or as an individual who would like to mobilize members to donate food, please contact **Lisa Clossin**, Volunteer Coordinator at **410-313-0703** or email [Lclossin@cac-hc.org](mailto:Lclossin@cac-hc.org).

### Exciting Youth Opportunities to Stay Active and Involved!

One of my missions is to provide awareness of programs within Howard County that provide a positive outlet for our youth. This allows them to channel their inner talent and participate in positive activities. Listed below you will find helpful links for parents and youth.

**4H Club:** For youth grades 3+. Meets **2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month** at The Other Barn **3:30-5pm**. Call **410-992-3726** for more info

**Art Attack** Creative after-school enrichment program from the Columbia Art Center. Meets **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays**.

Registration/Fees may apply. Call **410-992-3726**.

**Columbia Teen Center** [http://www.columbiaassociation.com/content/getinvolved/teens/teen\\_center.cfm](http://www.columbiaassociation.com/content/getinvolved/teens/teen_center.cfm) or 410-992-3726

**Howard County Library** [www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=22](http://www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=22)

**Voices For Change** <http://www.facebook.com/HCV4C#!/HCV4C/info> or email [MMekelburg7@verizon.net](mailto:MMekelburg7@verizon.net)

I encourage you to share this information with friends, families, neighbors and most importantly, your children.

### Make a Difference In a Student's Life... A-Ok Mentors Needed!

A-OK (Assist Our Kids) Mentoring-Tutoring, Inc. is now recruiting adult volunteers to be mentor-tutors to Howard County public school students who need extra support and encouragement to succeed. Volunteers meet with students individually or in small groups, during the school day and in after school programs. A-OK seeks dependable community members who can commit to one hour/week for one school year.

Participating elementary schools are: Atholton, Bryant Woods, Cradlerock, Deep Run, Forest Ridge, Guilford, Longfellow, Phelps Luck, Running Brook and Stevens Forest. There are also limited opportunities to meet with older students. For more info, call Chaya Kaplan at [aokmentor@gmail.com](mailto:aokmentor@gmail.com) or call **410-730-6030**.



## Health Care Options For You or Your Family!

The “Door to HealthCare” provides for the consolidation of applications and application processes for the numerous health programs available for those who are under/uninsured. Individuals sit down with a counselor or work alone at a kiosk to enter personal data (including: family make0up, income, etc.) which will determine the programs for which you and/or family members are eligible. The information will quickly be transferred electronically into the proper application and the process is complete. Services provided include: MCHP, MA, PAC and the Healthy Howard Health Plan.



“The Door to HealthCare” is located to the rear of **7178 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia, MD**. For further information, call **410-988-3737**.

## Financial Assistance Corner

We are experiencing an unprecedented economic recession and while Howard County may be consistently identified as one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, our residents and families are feeling the squeeze of this economic crisis. I receive a lot of calls to my office asking for referrals and county assistance so I wanted to take a moment and dedicate a section in my Newsletter identifying resources to help our residents save money.

**TAX CREDITS:** The most quick and efficient way to reduce your expenses is to consider the tax credits available to you as Howard County residents. For your convenience, I have listed examples below as well as their respective online application; however you can find a complete list and instructions on how to apply at

<http://countyofhowardmd.us/Services.aspx?id=6442458618> or by calling **410-313-4076**. Please note that some of these credits are based upon fund availability, so please contact the office directly for the most up-to-date information.

Livable Home Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Senior Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1492>

Homeowners Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1558>

Homestead Tax Credit: <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/homestead.html>

Energy Conservation Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442455147>

Daycare Provider Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Amatuer Sports Athletic Fields Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Surviving Spouse of Fallen Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker:

<http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Community Associations Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Renovation of Historic Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

## “Your Local Career Connection” Helps In Your Search For Employment!

Howard County’s Office of Workforce Development is here for you! The center is geared towards meeting the workforce and employment needs of businesses and job seekers in the 12st century labor market. They provide companies and individuals ranging from professional, technical and managerial to entry level. It offers residents a variety of tolls to aid in a job search. The full service center is equipped with computers, fax machines, telephones, internet access and copiers – all to assist you with your employment search. Customized recruitment events are held for businesses and space is available to use for interviewing.

For more details, click [here](#) or call **410-290-2620**. The calendar of events is [online](#).

## FREE Career Advancement and Computer Training for Adults!

Find a job or move up in your current position! This opportunity is **FREE** for low- to moderate-income residents of Howard County. Registration is **Mondays 10am-2pm** or by appointment and is located at Pinnacle Career Resources, Chartwell Professional Park, **8180 Lark Brown Road, Suite 301 in Elkridge**. For more details, call Cindy at **410-799-1097**.

## Do You Need Bulk-Item Pick-Up?

Bulk Trash Item pick-up has resumed but items must be scheduled by calling **410-313-6444** or visiting [www.HowardCountyBulkPickup.org](http://www.HowardCountyBulkPickup.org). These items typically do not fit in trash cans and could include mattresses, chairs, sofas, dressers, tables, etc. Bulk METAL Item pickup must be scheduled in advance by calling **410-313-6444**. Items must be placed at the curb by **6am** (no earlier than 6pm the night before). Please do not block mailboxes or fire hydrants. **NOTE:** It is illegal for anyone except Howard County’s contractors to pickup scrap metal at the curb (Howard County Code 18.610)

## Vacancies on Howard County's Boards and Commissions

Howard County Government is actively seeking volunteers to serve on several Boards and Commissions. Below you will find details including information on how to apply.

- **Adult Public Guardianship Review Board.** Board is comprised of 11 members that meet quarterly, the first Thursday of February, May, August and November at 8:30am. The Board reviews situations of disabled persons under public agency guardianship, is advisory to the court and makes recommendations to the court to continue, modify or terminate guardianship. For additional details, click [here](#).
- **Alcohol & Drug Abuse Advisory Board.** Board members serve five year terms and help review services and the need for services relating to alcohol or drug abuse education, treatment and prevention in Howard County. Candidates must be 18yrs or older, have an interest in drug and alcohol treatment and prevention services and be able to attend the Board's meetings on the third Wednesday of each month from 5:15-6:30pm. For details, call 410-313-6225.
- **Board of Electrical Examiners.** Commission is comprised of seven members who serve five year terms and must include two licensees under electrical regulations or representatives of an electrical inspection bureau, one electrical engineer and four general public members. Board members are responsible for making recommendations to the Director of Inspections, Licenses and Permits (DILP), the County Executive and the County Council on all matters relating to electrical work in Howard County, including the conduct of electrical business and licenses. To be eligible, candidates must be Howard County residents, 18 years of age or older and have an interest in electrical work. The Board meets on an as needed basis; meetings are held at 5pm in DILP, 3430 Court House Drive in Ellicott City. For more info, visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/electricalexaminersboard.htm> or call 410-313-1820.
- **Board to Promote Self Sufficiency.** Serves as the planning and coordinating mechanism for initiatives to promote the economic stability of individuals and families, and reduce the incidence of poverty in Howard County. Board generally meets the fourth Thursday of the month 9-10:30am in the Gateway Bldg.
- **Cable Advisory Committee.** Consists of 5 members all of which must be Howard County residents. Responsible for advising the County Executive and County Council on all matters related to the use of cable systems and facilities. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month (February, May, June, September, November & December) at 7pm. For more details, click [here](#).
- **Cemetery Preservation Advisory Board.** Composed of 11 members required to at least meet once per year in Baltimore to advise the Secretary of Labor, Licensing and Regulation and the Director on issues related to the regulation and administration of the Office.
- **Environmental Sustainability Board.** Consists of 13 members and assists in the implementation of the County's environmental agenda, providing both advice and review. Board members are both experts in energy, air/water quality, environmental governance, community outreach and education, transit, green building and environmental health.
- **Equal Business Opportunity Commission.** Assists with the efforts of the County in procuring goods and services from minority business enterprises, women business enterprises and disabled business enterprises pursuant to the County's Equal Business Opportunity Program and to monitor the activities of the Economic Development Authority to determine its efforts to include equal business opportunity concerns in its activities and programs. Consists of 10 members.
- **Ethics Commission.** Consists of 5 members responsible for administering the Howard County Public Ethics Law with respect to all public officials, officers and employees. Major functions include: rendering advisory opinions, receiving and reviewing financial disclosure statements, investigating complaints and receiving and reviewing lobbyist registration and activity reports. For additional details, click [here](#).
- **Board of Health.** Responsible for general health and sanitary interest of the people of Howard County. There are 9 members who generally meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month 6pm at the Health Department.
- **Historic District Commission.** Generally meets at 7pm on the first Thursday of each month at the George Howard Bldg, 3430 Court House Drive.

Applicants should send a resume and a brief letter explaining why they want to serve to: Howard County Government, Department of County Administration, Attn: David Lee, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

## Foreign Born Information and Referral Network!

The Foreign Born Information and Referral Network, 5999 Harpers Farm Road, Suite 200-E in Columbia needs Spanish-speaking volunteers to greet clients, answer basic questions, make appointments and support the staff. Hours are 9am-1pm or 1-5pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. Other times may be considered. For more information, call 410-992-1923 x 14.

## Medicare Patients – Looking for a Local Doctor!

The Medicare.gov site is the place to find information about Medicare. The webpage provides detailed information about the basics of Medicare, resources, preventative health care and much more. If you're looking for a local doctor who accepts Medicare, visit [www.Medicare.gov/find-a-doctor](http://www.Medicare.gov/find-a-doctor). Fill in your zipcode and any preferences you might have and instantly you will be given a list of providers in your area! For more details, call 1-800-MEDICARE.

## BRAC Corner!

Are you a business owner interested in becoming a contractor or already a Defense Contractor looking for additional information? The BRAC Business Initiative (BBI) is inviting businesses interested in accessing government contracting opportunities and becoming a qualified prime or sub-contractor to register with the BBI's new Match-Up Database. A number of defense contractors and government agencies are already using the Match-Up Database to determine which BBI businesses may possess the capabilities they require. Many companies registered in the Database have already been selected to meet with large prime contractors to partner and increase business.

Here is a list of the upcoming important events:

- **Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> 8am-3:30pm.** 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Procurement Conference. The Center for Minority Business Development (CMBD) and Prince George's Community College is organizing its second annual procurement conference in Upper Marlboro, MD. The theme is "CLIFF HANGERS: UNDERSTANDING HWEN YOU HAVE REACHED THE EDGE". The conference seeks to educate small and minority-owned businesses on what to do to move forward to reach optimal success. It will be held at Camelot by Martin's, 13905 Central Avenue in Upper Marlboro. To register visit <http://www.cmbd.biz/register> or [http://www.cmbd.biz/pdf/2013\\_CMBD\\_ProcurementConf\\_v1p2.pdf](http://www.cmbd.biz/pdf/2013_CMBD_ProcurementConf_v1p2.pdf).
- **Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7:30pm:** Networking Business Mixer & Showcase. BWCC invites BBI Partners to promote their business and build strategic relationships in a friendly environment with business professionals representing a variety of industries. This event typically attracts over 100 attendee from a variety of industry sectors. It will be held at Dave & Busters in Arundel Mills. BBI Partners will receive attendee and exhibitors discount. If interested please contact BWCC ([arlinda.andrews@bwcc.org](mailto:arlinda.andrews@bwcc.org)) for exhibitors form or to register online visit [www.bwcc.org](http://www.bwcc.org)

The database is **FREE** of charge and open to all local companies interested in generating more business within the defense community. The Match-Up Database can be found at <http://www.selfvetting.com/events/BBI/APL/> and registering in the database automatically makes a company a member of the BBI.

For any questions on the BBI or our monthly update meetings, call **Raj Kudchadkar** at 410-313-6376 or email [rkudchadkar@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:rkudchadkar@howardcountymd.gov).

## Give the Gift of Independence!

Neighbor Ridge launched its volunteer-based transportation service in 2004 with the mission to decrease isolation and improve the quality of life for Howard County's older residents. Today, its dedicated volunteers provide an average of 1,000 trips per month for medical appointments, shopping, social outings, personal care and business, religious services, volunteer activities and other day-to-day needs.

YOU can give seniors the gift of independence by volunteering as a Neighbor Ride driver. Flexible and rewarding daytime, evening and weekend opportunities are available. No set schedule is required. Drivers simply choose to provide rides that are convenient to their homes, offices and daily routines. Parent volunteers are welcome and encouraged to bring their children along for a wonderful experience. Please contact **Patrice Cerwonka, Colleen Konstanzer or Rosemary Noble** at 410-884-RIDE (7433) or email [volunteer@neighborride.org](mailto:volunteer@neighborride.org) for more information.



## Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!

The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard county Police Department and the community designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation and encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors.

For more information, please contact the Howard County Police Department at 410-313-2200.

## Alzheimer's Support Groups in Howard County!

Howard County proudly offers several Alzheimer's Support Groups at various locations throughout the County during days and times that are geared at accommodating the needs of those impacted by Alzheimer's. Pre-screening is required. For support group locations in Howard County, click [here](#). For more information on the Alzheimer's Association, call 1-800-272-3900 or visit [www.alz.org/maryland](http://www.alz.org/maryland).



## Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents 62 and Older!

The Howard County Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents ages 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

To schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of Howard County's toll free number: **1-800-506-5806**.

## In Need of Crisis Intervention?

Grassroots is a private, non-profit agency serving Howard County and Central Maryland and empowers people in crisis to make positive changes by offering professional 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter and outreach services.

Grassroots provides programs and services including a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, Maryland Crisis Hotline, Walk-in Counseling, Mobile Crisis Team, Suicide Prevention, outreach and education, a 33-bed Family Shelter, an 18-bed Men's Shelter, a Motel Shelter, Cold Weather Shelter and Day Resource Center.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc. is located at **6700 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD 21044**. For more information, please call **410-531-6006** or visit their website online at [www.grassrootscrisis.org](http://www.grassrootscrisis.org). The 24-hour line is **410-531-6677** and the MD Crisis Hotline is **1-800-422-0009**.

## "Guaranteed Ride Home" Comes to Howard County!

A program that gives a **FREE** ride home to commuters who travel to work via mass transit, car-pooling or walking at least twice a week is coming to Howard County. "Guaranteed Ride Home" offers regular commuters a free ride home in a taxi or rental car up to four times a year and is funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation.

To be eligible to participate in the program, commuters must register online at [www.commuterconnections.org](http://www.commuterconnections.org) or call **1-800-745-RIDE (7433)**.

## Recycling... Do's And Don'ts!

Ever wondered what is considered recyclable and what is not? You may be surprised to find out. For a complete list, visit <http://countyofhowardmd.us/whatshouldidowith.htm> or call **410-313-6444**. If it snows on your recycling day and recycling has been cancelled for the day, recyclables may be picked up on a slide schedule. For the most up-to-date information, call **410-313-7678** or visit <http://countyofhowardmd.us/recycling.htm>.

## Howard County Safety... Helpful Hints!

- Experiencing an Emergency? Dial 9-1-1
- Want to report an incident, non-emergency? Call 410-313-2200
- Need to report drug activity? Call 410-290-3784 or email [ACunningham@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:ACunningham@howardcountymd.gov)
- Want to make an anonymous tip (e.g. child abuse, violence, gangs, gambling, school incidents, underage drinking, damage to property etc.)? Call 410-313-7867 or email [GangTips@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:GangTips@howardcountymd.gov)
- Want to report gun crimes? Call 410-313-7867 or email [CToler@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:CToler@howardcountymd.gov).
- Do you need Victim Assistance? Call 410-313-3712 or email [KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov)
- Interested in a FREE Home Security Survey? Call 410-313-4795 and leave a message to make an appointment. For more info, call the Special Operations Bureau at 410-313-3758 or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/aboutpolice.htm>
- Want to start a Neighborhood Watch? Call the Community Services Section at 410-313-4780.
- Looking to prevent Auto Theft? Helpful tips available at <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/departments.aspx?ID=6442451452>
- Want to report an animal cruelty incidence or report unwanted pets, endangered animals, etc.? Call 410-313-2780, email [animalcontrol@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:animalcontrol@howardcountymd.gov) or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/animalcontrol.htm>
- Are speeders in your neighborhood? Consider the SMART Program initiative. Info available at [www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd\\_smartprogram.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd_smartprogram.htm)
- Looking for personal safety tips? Visit [www.co.ho.md.us/police/pd\\_personalsafety.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/police/pd_personalsafety.htm)
- Interested in a Police Ride-Along? Call 410-313-2208 for an application
- Need a HCPD Spanish line? Call 410-313-7807.
- Interested in volunteering with the HCPD? Call 410-313-2255
- Interesting in HCPD Recruitment? Call 410-313-4273.

## Transparency in Our Government!

If you believe there has been an instance of fraud, waste, and/or abuse in our government, we want to hear from you! Allegations of Fraud, Waste and Abuse in Howard County Government should be submitted to the Howard County Auditor's Office. All submittals are encrypted and password protected for security. We treat all allegations in a confidential matter and we'll do our very best to safeguard your identity!

To report an allegation, visit <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/DisplayPrimary.aspx?ID=4294969242>. If you do not wish to disclose your identity, you may remain anonymous; however, you should be aware that remaining anonymous may preclude a thorough investigation of your allegation due to insufficient information.

For more information, email [hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov) or call 410-313-2005.

The County Council is responsible for adopting laws within Howard County. The legislative progress generally follows a monthly cycle. The Council is currently on recess for the month of August. A list of upcoming meetings can be found [online](#).

## I Want to Hear From You!

This is your opportunity to stay informed and get involved! Your comments are always welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email to [Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov) or fax 410-313-3297.

All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room A, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042.**

## RECYCLE your old TV's!

The Howard County Bureau of Environmental Services would like to remind residents to recycle analog TV's rather than throw them away. Options: Alpha Ridge Landfill Resident's Convenience Area open **8am-4pm** Mon-Sat and Best Buy's Customer Take-Back Program. For more info, call **410-313-6444**.

Dr. Calvin Ball  
Howard County Council  
[District 2](#)  
[Email Me](#)  
3430 Courthouse Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

"An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity."

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.